

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Application No. 09/323,135
Attorney Docket No.: Q54622

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 are all the claims pending in the Application. By this Amendment, Applicant amends claims 1-3. Claim 2 is amended solely for the purpose of correcting minor informalities. Since such amendments are made to correct minor, basic elements, Applicant respectfully submits that that they do not narrow the scope of the claim and do not raise any Festo implications.

Preliminary Matters

Applicant thanks the Examiner for granting the request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114. Also, Applicant thanks the Examiner for approving the formal drawings filed June 3, 2000.

Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to amend the title, as shown above, to —correct a minor grammatical error.

The Examiner withdrew the allowability of claims 2 and 4 in view of newly discovered reference. In addition, the Examiner objected to claims 1 and 2 for minor informalities and rejected claims 1-8 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,949,871 to Kabay et al. (hereinafter “Kabay”).

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Claim Objections

The Examiner objected to claims 1 and 2 because of minor informalities. Applicant has revised claims 1 and 2, and respectfully submits that the claims as now presented no longer include the potential informalities mentioned by the Examiner. Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the objections to claims 1 and 2.

Prior Art Rejection

Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Kabay. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection and respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider this rejection in view of the comments, which follow.

Of these claims, only claim 1 and 3 are independent. First, independent claim 1 recites a unique combination of elements not found in the cited reference; this combination includes a recitation of:

the signaling configuration depending on
type of signaling channels accessible to the
coupler...

Applicant respectfully submits that the unique combination of claim 1 including at least the claimed signaling configuration depending on the type of signaling channels accessible to the coupler is absent from the Kabay reference. Applicant has carefully studied Kabay's discussion of the interceptor sending an IAM based on the service trigger conditions stored in the database, which is not similar to the signaling configuration depending on the type of signaling channels as set forth in claim 1.

Kabay teaches an improved method of providing services in the telecommunications network for ported clients (clients which kept their number but changed the provider) by means of using an interceptor (col. 5, lines 40 to 65). Specifically, this interceptor intercepts a control message (e.g., Initial Address Message); then accesses the type and values of an IAM and compares them with stored service trigger data, to ascertain if the message came from a ported client or not (Fig. 15; col. 13, lines 10 to 19). Next, at least one of the call-related parameters of the control message is modified to effect some of the required service implementation action. Basically, this interceptor sends out a new IAD with destination data set in dependence on the location routing number (col. 16, lines 1 to 67).

However, Kabay teaches that IAM depends on a comparison of the parameters in IAM with stored service trigger condition data. Stored service trigger data includes a message type and message content such as comparing the called number with the location routing number. For ported customers, the two will be different (Fig. 6; col. 4, lines 12 to 53). But Kabay's service trigger conditions stored in a database have nothing to do with the type of signaling channels accessible to the intercept box. That is, Kabay just teaches that modifying IAM depends on comparing routing numbers stored in the memory. In short, Kabay fails to teach or suggest the signaling configuration, which depends on the type of signaling channels accessible to the intercept box; instead, Kabay teaches that configuration (modifying IAM) depends on the destination of the client (whether client is ported or not).

Therefore, the unique combination with a *signaling configuration depending on type of signaling channels accessible to the coupler* as set forth in claim 1 is not suggested or taught

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by Kabay, which lacks having the service trigger conditions depend on the type of channels available. For at least this reason, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 1 is patentably distinguishable from Kabay. Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider and to withdraw this rejection of independent claim 1. Also, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 2, 7 and 8 are allowable at least by virtue of their dependency on claim 1.

Next, Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection with respect to claim 3, as now amended. Claim 3 recites: *the signaling configuration depending on type of signaling channels available to the switch*. This limitation is similar to the limitation of having the signaling configuration depend on type of signaling channels, as recited in claim 1. Since claim 3 contains features that are similar to the features argued above with respect to claim 1, those arguments are respectfully submitted to apply with equal force here. For substantially the same reasons, therefore, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw this rejection of independent claim 3 and its dependent claims 4-6.

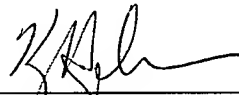
Conclusion and request for telephone interview

In view of the foregoing remarks, reconsideration and allowance of this Application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

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The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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